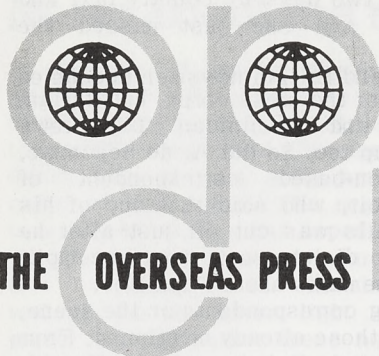




THE OVERSEAS PRESS BULLETIN

A PUBLICATION OF THE OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB OF AMERICA

Vol. 26, No. 12



July 10, 1971

It's official: OPC moves to Time-Life

The Time-Life Building, in the heart of the communications industry, will be the new home for OPC. Long mentioned, and discussed at some length by President *Will Oursler* at the annual meeting, the rumor became fact when the location was voted on favorably by a majority of the Board of Governors at its June 29 meeting. The Club will move to its new quarters and begin operations there by the middle of August.

The vote was favorable despite the financial problems which still plague the Club, caused largely by the fact that, to quote Board Member *Whit Burnett*, "our past is a mortgage on our future." What is needed now, it was felt, is the charisma of a prestigious location such as the Time-Life Building.

Our quarters, as reported in the last Bulletin, are located on the second floor of the building, which occupies the block between 50th and 51st streets on the west side of the Avenue of the Americas. It can be approached most directly from the 51st street entrance, where a private escalator leads to the second floor. In the lobby will be a plaque denoting our occupancy.

The space will be shared by the OPC with the newly organized New Yorker Club, an interracial group. Each organization will have its own bar-grill and dining room. We will share a magnificent kitchen with every modern facility imaginable. The OPC will also have a library, meeting rooms and offices, and the OPC Foundation, with its Edward R. Murrow Memorial Library, will be located in our quarters (for a fee).

There is, in addition, a large dining room which can be used by either club for special events. Everything will be divided between the two clubs, 7.7 per cent to the OPC, 5.5 per cent to the

New Yorker Club. OPC holds the master lease.

We are sub-leasing the space from Shell Oil until January 1, 1975. After that, any new lease must be negotiated with Rock-Time.

Carpets, draperies and some furniture — largely chairs and tables — go with the lease. To fill out, other furnishings, which have been in storage since we vacated the 40th Street Clubhouse, will be moved to our new quarters and, hopefully, be in place for the grand opening.

Though it hasn't been officially decided, it is expected that at least for the time being we will do our own catering, as we have done previously. And that, for the first few weeks, only the bar and grill will be ready for business.

The National Democratic Club, where we have been headquartering during this interim period, has been most pleasant, and its staff extremely courteous, but it will be fun to be back on our own, once more meeting our friends in our own quarters.

AN IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Although the OPC move to the Time-Life Building has been set, please DO NOT send any OPC mail to Time-Life. Until further notice all Club mail should be addressed:

Overseas Press Club
c/o National Democratic Club
233 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 100 16

Also note that for this interim period the Club's office telephone number is: 725-2325.

OPC outing to Governor's Island

A special treat is in store for all who attend the OPC all-day VIP visit to Governor's Island on Saturday August 7. This picturesque and historic site — only minutes from Manhattan — can only be visited through special arrangements with the Third Coast Guard District (Eastern Area) which has installations on the island.

With red carpet treatment, the visit will include the showing of a brief film documentary, a tour of historical spots and a cocktail reception — buffet luncheon at the Officers' Club attended by Commander Rear Admiral B.F. Engel, USCG. The outing will also feature a boat trip around the island, inspection of AMVER, the Automatic Merchant Vessel Report System, the computerized system for locating merchant ships around the world for search and rescue purposes, and briefings at the Rescue Coordinating Center.

The outing was initiated by *Barrett Callaghan* and organized by PIO Lt. Walter Smith, USCG. OPC Vice President *Joe Peters* arranged the special VIP treatment.

Members may invite up to two adult guests — children unfortunately cannot be accommodated. As the visit is limited to 100, the rule is first come, first served. Applications must be received at the OPC July 30 and no cancellation will be accepted after that date.

Organizers of the trip emphasize that, because of Coast Guard regulations, the names and occupations of both Club members and their guests must be stated on the reservations. Any names not on the list by July 30 will not be able to board the ferry to the island.

The cost for the entire junket is only \$4.00 per person — food, drinks,

(Cont'd on page 5)

WORLD-WIDE TICKER

COVERING DUVALIER RITES IN HAITI

By MERWIN K. SIGALE

PORT-AU-PRINCE: A corps of about 60 newsmen descended on Haiti for the surprisingly smooth transition from the era of Papa Doc to the reign of his 19-year-old son and successor, Jean-Claude Duvalier.

It was the largest foreign press contingent in Haiti since 1963 tensions with the neighboring Dominican Republic, and the visitors found a new atmosphere of friendly tolerance towards their presence, along with a few abrasive remnants of the old suspicion that prevailed under the late Francis Duvalier's regime.

During the most solemn moments, there was official cooperation. Photographers and TV cameramen were given closeup access to the casket as Papa Doc's body lay in state. At the funeral mass a day later, they swarmed about in the muggy heat, filming the Duvalier family and the body — while rifle-toting guards simply watched.

There were some difficulties as well as ironies, however. Outgoing cables were censored but international telephone calls were not, and most of the reporters got stories out via clear and speedy phone connections. Those who tried cables had their copy passed to an army officer, who took it to the palace for clearance. Sentences were sometimes deleted. One story filed to the Los Angeles Times never arrived.

Homer Bigart of the New York Times learned of Haitian officialdom's sensitivity about the book, "Papa Doc." Written by newsman Al Burt of the Miami Herald and Bernard Diederich of Time, it is the only thorough account of the Duvalier era and hardly a sympathetic one. Bigart's copy was confiscated as he went through airport customs inspection.

Isaac (Ike) Flores of AP's Miami bureau found that books in general made the customs folks nervous. "They nearly took away my copy of Jimmy Breslin's book, 'The Gang That Couldn't Shoot Straight'," he said. Another newsman had taken the precaution of wrapping Papa Doc in a dust jacket from "The Short Stories of Ernest Hemingway."

Retired Col. Robert L. Heintz of NANA and the Detroit News had no trouble with books. A former head of the U.S. Marine mission here and later a forceful critic of Papa Doc, Heintz was sent out on the plane that brought him in.

For Steve Starr, AP photographer from Miami, frustration came not at the airport but at the funeral, where his loss was a pickpocket's gain — a wallet and \$100. A British correspondent had a wallet with \$300 lifted.

The most enterprising newsman was the Briton who reportedly rushed up to Jean-Claude with a greeting on the order of "good morning" as the new president emerged for a round of inspections. The Briton was said to have filed in the best tradition of personal journalism, "I was the first correspondent to talk to Jean-Claude Duvalier..."

The mythical award for mental anguish went to Peggy Poor of the Orlando (Fla.) Sentinel, who was vacationing on the north coast of the adjacent Dominican Republic when Papa Doc died. While her colleagues jetted in from North America in a few hours, it

took her two days by country taxi and airplane, and she just missed the funeral.

U.S. and British newsmen accounted for most of the press corps, but Italian, German and Dominican TV crews showed up too. So did A. de Segonzac, Washington-based correspondent of France-Soir, who said that one of his phone calls was cut off just after he started to dictate some most uncomplimentary remarks about Papa Doc.

Among correspondents on the scene, besides those already mentioned: From Miami — Don Bohning, Miami Herald; Jay Mallin, Time; Russel Splane and Harry Caicedo, both Voice of America; Charles Murphy, ABC, and Merwin K. Sigale for Westinghouse, Washington Star, New York Daily News and Miami News.

From Mexico City — Francis Kent, Los Angeles Times; Robert Evans, Reuters; George Natanson, CBS, and Barry Bishop, Chicago Tribune. From Washington — Elizabeth Peer, Newsweek; Peter Braestrup, Washington Post; Gordon Graham, NBC; Charles Wheeler, BBC, and Richard Beeston, London Daily Telegraph.

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Lower surveys Latin American press

OPC Board Member, Elmer Lower, President of ABC News, talks shop with Dr. J. V. Homen de Montes, a director of the Sao Paulo newspaper O Estado de Sao Paulo. Lower visited Brazil as part of a recent seven-country Latin American tour.



Photo by Agencia Estado

Notes about the move

Because of the uncertainties surrounding the Club's move to new quarters, publication of the Bulletin was temporarily suspended. The fact is, we didn't have the big story and we decided to wait for it. The negotiations took longer than we had hoped, but now we plan to resume our regular publication schedule. In the interim, while waiting for the green light to go to press, we did gather these notes pertaining to the last days at the old Clubhouse and these long days we've spent in limbo.

* * *

In a move closely related to the Club's transfer to new quarters, portions of the OPC archives were presented by the Club to Columbia's School of Journalism. The school will provide a proper and permanent home for the collection. Hopefully, it will serve to enlighten future journalists as to how the working press thought, worked and played from the '40's to the '70's.

* * *

We tried to sell everything salable, of course, and rumor has it some volunteer salesmen disposing of not-to-go-with-us items nearly sold off the furnishings of some OPC tenants. We understand the Television Academy *almost* lost an office refrigerator this way.

* * *

Those responsible for the sale of the furniture and other movable items not slated for use in the new OPC quarters announce that proceeds amounted to over \$1,000.00.

* * *

OPC furniture not sold and not being moved to new Club quarters has been presented to St. Luke's Chapel of Trinity Parish, Freedom House and Odyssey House. The recipients, delighted with the gifts, brought in their own moving crews to transport the pieces to their new homes.

St. Luke's, according to Father Henry Burrows, will use the furniture in its teenage coffee house — a facility open to all youngsters in the Greenwich Village Church's neighborhood. Additional pieces will help furnish an easily accessible rest area for the older people of the community.

Freedom House, OPC's neighbor on 40th Street, plans to use its furniture in various meeting rooms, according to its General Director, Leonard Sussman.

Odyssey House, a well-known organization involved in the rehabilitation of drug addicts, took miscellaneous furniture, surplus files, obsolete office ma-

chinery, etc. to use in its projected new center for women addicts.

Although primarily an eleemosynary act, giving these pieces to such organizations saved OPC the expense of carting them away. And because of the nature of the recipients, it seems to the Bulletin there might also be some in-tax advantages for the Club. There are times when it is more blessed to give.

* * *

In spite of valiant effort on the part of President *Will Oursler*, one striking Club landmark will not make the move to Sixth Avenue. The handsome copper hood over the grill — custom built for and presented to the OPC by the Anaconda Company— stays behind. Seems a law prohibits anything attached to a wall from being removed from a building by a tenant, regardless of who paid for it originally.

* * *

Souvenir hunters were also on the prowl. While not wishing to point a finger, this reporter must admit to observing two well-dressed gentlemen carefully removing the Mens Room sign from a lobby door.

* * *

Agatha Young aptly summed it up in verse — we understand she's been turning out a couplet a day. "We thank whatever Gods may be, who helped us save the OPC." Or something like that.

Blue Cross-Shield deadline extended

Blue Cross-Blue Shield has extended the deadline for OPC membership applications to July 20th. Members interested in taking advantage of this Club service can contact Fay Adler at the Club for application forms. Call 725-2325.

New Bulletin chairman

Betty Etter, whose People and Places column in the Bulletin is an extremely popular feature, was unanimously elected by the Board of Governors to become Chairman of the OPC Bulletin Committee. She replaces *Harry Welker*, former Committee Chairman who recently resigned the position. The Bulletin wishes to express its gratitude to Welker for the strong leadership and considerate guidance he continually extended to all involved in the paper's publication during his tenure as Committee Chairman.

In appreciation of staff cooperation

Moving the OPC, while perhaps not of the magnitude of moving mountains, did require an enormous amount of hard work. The Bulletin is therefore happy to publish the following note mailed to OPC staffers Don Kearney, Michael Crissan, Wendell Sether, Gloria Watson and Sol Zatt.

"Since in doing the work of this move we have been participating equally, and since your own contribution has been so great, it would be out of order for any one of us to say 'thank you.' That will come from the House Committee and the Board. But for Hildegarde and Agatha the companionship in this difficult job and in the sharing of responsibilities has been a great experience that has given us much pleasure and for that we are most grateful.

Cordially,
Agatha Young
Hildegarde Fillmore"

These two ladies, who themselves were indispensable in facilitating the move, also wrote the following to the Board of Governors.

"It is a very real pleasure to write this memo about the fine work in connection with the move by Mr. Menditto and Mrs. Frohne. They have both worked exceedingly hard for long hours. They have taken responsibility, anticipated problems, forestalled errors, and dealt with emergencies. They have undertaken and carried through far more than has been asked of them. They are both highly efficient, and through it all, they have never lost their equanimity. It has been a pleasure to work with them and the Club owes them much gratitude."

Pulitzer Prize rules

Details concerning nominations for the 56th annual Pulitzer Prizes, which will be awarded on May 1, 1972, have been announced.

The book deadline is November 1, 1971. Four copies of each book are required. Requests for nomination forms and the Pulitzer Prize Plan of Award should be addressed to Professor John Hohenberg, Room 702, Graduate School of Journalism, Columbia University, New York, N. Y. 10027.

The journalism deadline for the 1971 calendar year remains February 1, 1972.

PEOPLE & PLACES

By BETTY ETTER

ON THE GO: **Morton Frank**, publisher of Family Weekly, who was recently elected president, too, off to the International Press Institute in Helsinki with his wife Betty, articles editor of Good Housekeeping. They also plan to visit Leningrad, Moscow, Vilnius, Budapest and Vienna....For the third time in four years, **Ruth Biemiller** celebrated May Day abroad, this year in Lustleigh, Devon. Other stops on her recent trip through the South of England and Wales by train, bus and foot included Hastings, Brighton, Dartmoor, Bath, Wells — and Mumbles, Oystermouth and Worm's Head on the Gower Peninsula off Swansea....**Stella Margold** back from the Middle East, where she covered radio assignments for WHRB (Boston) and writing assignments for the Import-Export Bulletin and Business Abroad. She also covered the ICC Congress in Vienna....**Bob Albert**, editor of Sales Management magazine, in Moscow May 14, first stop in a two-week Soviet-American Symposium on international marketing...**Trudy Goth** reporting from various international music and drama festivals for the Washington Star and various Swiss and German publications, will visit Salzburg, Florence, Vienna, Berlin, Spoleto, Israel and Persepolis where she'll have an audience with her Imperial Majesty the Shabanou of Iran...**Jean Colbert** of WTIC (Hartford) was in Ireland and France to do recordings for her daily program on tourism, personalities and fashion and to cover the wine festivals of Bordeaux and Colmar, Alsace...**Arthur Kent**, president of National Association of Broadcast Engineers & Technicians, on inspection tour of Russian TV facilities in Moscow, Leningrad and Kiev will also stop-over in London to observe BBC TV facilities.

ARTICLES: **Larry Blochman** in June Reader's Digest with a piece on "The Unforgettable Stanley Stein." ... Woman's Day for May carries "Drugs: the Dangerous Combination" by **Ruth Winter** and for June, "What Dinner Habits Reveal About Your Family" by **Norman Lobsenz**....**Frances Kisch's** Make a Vacation collage" in Lady's Circle for July....**Gertrude Samuels** talked about the four-day work week in the NY Times Magazine for May 16....Same issue, **Alan Levy's** first-person account of "How to Get Kicked Out of Prague," along with pix of him and his family. Levy's book, "Rowboat to Prague," coming out this fall via the Orion Press

(Grossman Publishers)...**Jack Harrison Pollack's** "The Spa that Came in from the Cold" in July Coronet. He also has a piece on the new way to prevent burglaries in the Sunday Washington Post....**Bob Wacker** has an as-told-to piece with Sesame Street's Bob McGrath in Family Weekly for May 30 titled "Lollipop Magic." It's an analysis of childish malaprops, misunderstandings and their possible significance....**Anne Turner Bruno**, the Bulletin's gal in Istanbul, produced a large share of the text in the Aramco World Magazine's current special edition on "The Arab Woman." Anne covered Egypt, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon as part of a four-woman team which interviewed 300 outstanding women of the Arab world....**Charles Raddock** in Jewish Echo, new campus monthly, with feature on Rabbi Meir Kahane, controversial founder of the militant Jewish Defense League....AP newsfeatures include a four-parter by **Hugh Mulligan**, based on a worldwide fact-finding mission covering "Men at Arms," and one on tourism by **Linn Heinzerling**...**Madeline D. Ross** has two articles on London and Paris flea Markets in July issue of Off Duty, a magazine published in Frankfurt, Germany, edited by **Thomas C. Lucey**...**Carl Bakal's** "The Failure of Federal Gun Control" is cover story in July 3 issue of Saturday Review.

BOOKS: Fifth edition of Nancy and **Temple Fielding's** "Super Economy Europe '71" out May 21....**Theodore Berland's** "Living with your Ulcer" being published this month by St. Martin's Press. It was written in collaboration with Dr. Mitchell A. Spellberg of Chicago. Next in the series, on bad back, is already off the Berland typewriter....Third book of prose and poetry by **Leon Agaronian**, newly elected member of the American Translators Association, coming via South and West...."The Monroe Doctrine" out this month, is **Charles Morrow Wilson's** 41st book in 41 years. Month also marks the 50th anniversary of his initiation as a newspaper reporter on the then Fayetteville, Ark., Daily Democrat....**Otto J. Scott** has finished Volume 1 of a history of Black & Decker, to be published by McGraw Hill in January, '72, under the title "The Powered Hand." Volume II, on which he is at work, should appear a couple of years later. Meantime, after a celebration trip to London and Sweden, Scott is considering other business-book

possibilities....**Jerry M. Landay** completing book on history of the Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem (Book Div. of Newsweek) and awaiting publication of his text on archaeological discovery in the Holy land, "Silent cities, Sacred Stones." (McCall's Publishing Company) is also commissioned for article on Israel's oriental majority, called "Israel's Other Jews," for Weekend Magazine of the London Telegraph.

RADIO & TV: **Josephine Lyons** the American producer on the hour British ATV television show on Germaine Greer, being filmed in the US. It presents reactions to Miss Greer's book, "The Female Eunuch."...**Reid Collins** anchorman for a CBS radio series called "Spaceship Earth."...Photographic essay by **Cornell Capa** aired May 29 as a New York Illustrated episode. **Barrett McGurn**, former Vatican correspondent, interviewed on CBS network program Look Up and Live, June 6, discussed the Vatican's new 20,000 word document on the communications media, urging acceptance of "the right of the public to know."...After accepting an Emmy Award for "The Everglades" in L.A., **Craig Fisher** stopped in Washington to produce a program for the Comm. Workers Union wherein their president urged the membership to strike AT&T, sponsor of his award winning show.

SPEAKERS: **Amelia Lobsenz** speaking June 24 at the national convention of the Insurance Advertising Conference in Montreal....**Walter H. Diamond** delivered World Trade Day address to the city of Indianapolis, sponsored by the local Chamber of Commerce, Indiana Manufacturers Assn., Indiana Assn. of Credit Management and World Trade Club of Indiana.

SEMINARS: **Edward L. Bernays** led day-long seminar on public affairs for regional Social Security Commissioners of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare in Baltimore May 26....Newsweek photo editor **Tom Orr** took part in recent seminar for New York Daily News' 48 staff photographers.

HONORS: **David Horowitz**, educational editor of KNBC (Burbank, Cal.) named first honorary member of the year by the Southern California chapter of Kappa Delta Pi, honorary society of school administrators and teachers....**Art Riley** of the Boston Globe awarded a certificate of achievement for his entry, "Science in Industry," by the Society of Technical Writers and Publishers...Among gold key awards

(Cont'd on page 8)

The press in Chile

A recent report on communications media in Chile was prepared by World Wide Information Services, Inc.

Excerpts from the Report

A few weeks ago, two foreign correspondents visited Santiago. One affirmed there was complete freedom of expression in Chile. The other came to the conclusion all communications media are seriously threatened. Both were right.

A daily perusal of the Chilean press might seem to refute the contention that the press is being muzzled. Most political parties, and sometimes even factions of these parties, have their own publications whose main function is to publicize the party line. The vast majority of these publications represents the Communist, Socialist and other far leftist parties, and these are particularly strident and biased. But every party outlet is characterized by exaggerations and deformations of fact implicit in this type of publication. Since even opposition parties continue to be able to express themselves in

(Cont'd on page 7)



Bulletin Chairman: Betty Etter
Managing Editor: Richard Stainbrook

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The fight for press freedom

Most members of America's working press greeted the recent Supreme Court decision concerning the contest between the New York Times, the Washington Post and the executive branch of the US government with relief. The time-honored principle prohibiting prior restraint on the publication of news has been upheld. The decision is particularly gratifying in view of the continuing and increasing efforts in this and other countries to subvert the freedom of the press.

In this country we have witnessed a Congressional subpoena to force CBS to produce all notes and film gathered in a documentary TV film on the Pentagon and a citation of contempt of Congress against Dr. Frank Stanton of that network for refusing to comply. A Federal Grand Jury issued another subpoena to compel a New York Times reporter to produce notes taken in gathering stories. Police officers armed with a warrant searched the Stanford University Daily office. Certain law enforcement agencies are admitting openly to the act of posing as newsmen to pursue investigations. Six newsmen were arrested in the recent May Day demonstrations in Washington while attempting to report the news. And the Vice President of the nation and the wife of the Attorney General make remarks which tend to bring the integrity of the press into question.

The situation is far more ominous in other countries, as some of the dispatches in this issue of the Bulletin underscore. There are ominous reports from Chile concerning the Allende government's harassment and economic pressure against the press and from Jamaica concerning television monopoly. The President of Nicaragua is reported to have recommended pressure against the "gentlemen of La Prensa (Managua) to make that newspaper change its editorial policies" and the recent attack on the Cuban poet-journalist Herberto Padilla is still fresh in our minds. Papers continue to be taken over in Bolivia and there are new reports of insensitivity to the rights and needs of the press in Israel.

An awareness of the seriousness and scope of the problem was recognized in dailies from Canada to Argentina during this year's Freedom of the Press Day, June 7. Strong statements warning of the dangers inherent in suppressing the freedom of information and dissenting opinions were also issued at that time by the Inter American Press Association and the Organization of American States.

Manoel F. do Nascimento Brito,

President of the Inter American Press Association stated: "I call on all men of journalism in the Americas to rededicate themselves with insight and intellectual integrity to the cause of that liberty upon which all other liberties rest."

And the Honorable Galo Plaza, Secretary General of the Organization of American States said: "...an occasion to reaffirm the rights and duties of journalism in America. I fervently join in the celebration of this significant day which consecrates an unrenounceable right of all civilized people."

We in this country can, while continuing to be on guard against infringements, nevertheless feel renewed hope and faith in the protection afforded by our constitution and courts. A basic truth has again and wisely been recognized and reaffirmed. Where the press is not free, the people are not free!

It's all in the name

Sometime back a question was raised concerning the names of people residing in various parts of the world. Here are some answers:

Argentine, Camerounian, Cape Verian, Kenyan, Martican, Liechtensteiner, Monegasque, Netherlander, Palmyrene, Sa'udi, Swazi, Taiwanese, Connecticuter, Illinoisan, Mainer, Wisconsinite, New Hampshireite, Bombayite, Bruxellois, Genevan or Genevese, Minneapolisian, Delhite, Twin Citian.

Damascus could and should be a tourist haven — 4 1/5 Syrian pounds to \$1, with prices on our U.S. Depression 1930's level — airport taxi, 18 miles, 8 pounds, best hotels, with meals, \$10, maximum.

Governor's Island outing in August

(Cont'd from page 1)

transportation and Coast Guard hospitality.

Reservations — including names and occupations — can be mailed to Joe Peters at the OPC interim address listed in this issue of the Bulletin. The outing may be charged to member's house accounts.

The group meets at 10:00 AM August 7 at the Governor's Island ferry (near the Staten Island ferry) and the return is scheduled for 4:00 PM.

It sounds like quite a bash!

WORLD-WIDE TICKER

(Cont'd from page 2)

From New York — Michale Leapman, The Times of London; Philip Finn, Daily Express (London); David Wright, Daily Mirror (London), and Stephan Fay, Sunday Times (London). From San Juan — Don Becker, UPI, and Norma Valle, El Mundo.

FRUSTRATION IN ROME

By PAUL BRINDEL

ROME: In London you phone 999 for the police. In Rome you called 861-031 all day, May 8, for the time and place of a "press conference" by Secretary of State Rogers, finally divulged 90 minutes in advance — at the Hilton, 7:30 p.m.

This did protect the Secretary from a thousand demonstrators who threw fire bombs at police, injured seven, burned two cars downtown, far from the Hilton. Also it prevented embarrassing questions as to why Syria compelled a 150 mile detour of his AF jet, May 3, en route from Amman to Beirut, as divulged in the Rome Daily American, May 8. Media not told of "861-031" included the National Catholic Welfare Conference News Service serving over 100 U.S. and Canadian papers.

P.S. This is not "sour grapes." I had the number two days in advance. Also as at the Vatican Council, Tass, Pravda and Izvestia.

BLUNDERS IN ISRAEL

By LEN WHARTMAN

JERUSALEM:

I have had occasion in the past to comment on the mindless way in which the Israel Government handles its public relations but this week was the limit. In the short space of seven days the Government made four major PR blunders which even the most charitable observer would have described as folly.

The first blunder involved the Coral Sea, a Liberian tanker under contract to an Israeli shipping firm, which was attacked on June 11th by Arab terrorists in the Bab el Manded Straits leading into the Red Sea. Instead of immediately calling the attack to the attention of the world, the news was deliberately held up for three days. Foreign correspondents were not permitted to board the ship and interview the captain after the vessel had made it to Sharm el Sheikh (although the local press was given the opportunity) and the ship was ordered to repair and repaint over the damage. As

a result, by the time foreign correspondents boarded the ship on Thursday June 17th in Eilat, there was little to see and the world had lost interest.

The second blunder involved an admirable program to allow visitors from neighboring Arab countries to see their relatives in the occupied territories and also visit Israel for a three month period during the summer. Israel has been harshly criticized for its supposed ill treatment of the Arabs and this is an excellent way of countering these accusations. But on the day that the bridges were opened, and the first of what was expected to be an influx of 100,000 visitors began pouring into the territories, the press was banned and two days elapsed before the first newsman or cameraman was permitted access to the area. "By then," lamented the Jerusalem Post, "international interest in the story had waned."

The third blunder was Israel's decision to contribute IL 10,000 (about \$3,000) to the so-called "Fighters for African Freedom" who were injured in clashes with "colonialist powers," namely Portugal and South Africa. The fact is that a lot of these fighters stem from totalitarian, anti-Israel countries, and it was a transparent attempt to win sympathy of the sponsoring group, the Organization of African States. Predictably, the bribe — for one can find no other word to describe the donation — boomeranged. The government of South Africa promptly shut off the flow of millions of dollars which South African Jewry contribute to the United Israel Appeal. Not only that, the move put South African Jewry in an uncomfortable position and made them the target for government attacks, which were especially painful because the issue involved was of extreme sensitivity to South Africa and had no relationship to Israel whatsoever. To add salt to the wound, UN Secretary General U Thant announced that Israel had been the only country to notify the UN of its contribution to the fund.

The fourth blunder involved the treatment shown to representatives of the foreign press who were invited to watch Israeli army maneuvers in the Golan Heights this week. The Israeli army spokesman considered it his duty to see to it that the foreign press received a minimum amount of information and the local press a maximum amount (despite the transparent absurdity of the differentiation, for in any event the

foreign press reports what the local newspapers carry). One disgruntled foreign correspondent told me after the badly handled affair that it could have been summed up as follows: "The Israeli armed forces carried out maneuvers against what were presumed to be simulated Syrian forces. The outcome of the battle was unclear, but one fact emerged: the foreign press lost."

In response to many complaints by foreign correspondents that they were not getting the news from the Government and that blatant discrimination was being shown in favor of the local press, the Government "reorganized" its press division, dividing it in a totally illogical way between the Prime Minister's Office and the Foreign Office. The results can be noted above. Summing up the situation, the Jerusalem Post wrote: "Israel prides itself on being a country where freedom of news gathering is an accepted fact of life. Its reputation in this respect suffered this week for no seemingly good reason. It is difficult to discover who is really responsible for government press relations. Whoever it is, the public is owed some explanation."

So is the foreign press.

LETHARGY IN PARIS

By BEN REDMONT

PARIS: The OPC is not the only press club in this world with membership and financial problems — if it's any comfort to know.

Foreign Correspondents Club in Hotel George V has been cut back in activities because of lack of patronage. Weekly "friendly luncheons" continue every Tuesday, as do occasional "tea-time briefings," but club room is unavailable at other times and Telex communications setup is being transferred elsewhere.

AND SOME VICHYSOISSE

By LOU LEZARDOU

VICHY: The war between wine and water in Auvergne, France, has been won — by water," says Basil Woon in an article about Auvergne wines and the famous water "cures" of the same region in Wine, the international wine magazine published in London. Vichy, France, he says, is being renovated throughout and hopes to regain popularity as a watering place lost when Marshal Petain made it the seat of the collaborationist government 1940-1945. The water of Vichy is being promoted, but Auvergne wines have not recovered their former status.

(How about a sampling program with OPCers? Ed.)

Letters

THE CONTROVERSY GOES ON

To quote the distinguished OPC member Ansel Talbert's opening remark in the April 10 Bulletin, I was surprised, not to mention greatly disturbed, upon opening my Bulletin to note . . . that I am listed as a lost member.

I would not like my friends and acquaintances, that is those who are not so fortunate as to read the Journal of Commerce regularly and therefore know better, to assume that I have sunk into oblivion or otherwise disappeared without leaving a trace.

. . . To revert to Mr. Talbert, is it really necessary to devote nearly two columns of valuable Bulletin space to that kind of partisan politics? It is unimaginable that any newspaper in the country would print a letter to the editor of that length on even the most vital topic. Must we on something so trivial as Mr. Talbert's personal appraisal of the treatment given to two speakers? A couple of paragraphs surely would have been sufficient. God knows we get the Talbert picture often enough in the Bulletin; must we now also have his prose?

H. Peter Dreyer

Not verse now, only prose!

Robert Browning and Ed.

COMMENDATIONS

As the curtain falls on another period in Club history let us remember some who worked diligently and untiringly in their efforts to get the OPC moved out. One was *Agatha Young* who, with her committee, toiled long hours to mark boxes and have the impedimenta ready for the movers.

Another volunteer was *Madeline Ross* who has earned her title as "Queen of the Match Girls" for her great persuasiveness in selling the hundreds of souvenir match boxes and other gift items kept in inventory by the Club's gift department. Amid shaking heads and great amazement that our overage Vice President could still produce, Madeline moved from table to table each day in the grill soliciting here and soliciting there until the dollars literally poured in. We thank Madeline for giving so much of herself so that we can live another day.

Art Milton
Chairman, Gift Committee

Chile's press

(Cont'd from page 5)

public print, one answer to the question "Is there freedom of the press in Chile?" must be "yes."

Unquestionably, however, the Allende government has been able to exert pressures (the government controls a large amount of advertising and the Communists control the unions) and to force compromises on most major media outlets which formerly presented factual and unbiased news coverage. The government has said it wants to place the means of mass communication at the services of the people, but it has shown itself to be highly sensitive to criticism (as in the case of the press). What it hopes to achieve is "responsible censorship."

In January, the nationwide TV system announced that a portion of a popular evening newscast would be devoted to coverage of President Allende and his government. This results in a considerable amount of pro-government propaganda. Non-governmental political parties have mentioned that they are having difficulty gaining access to television. Government intervention, however, has been so indirect that it has created little local impact.

El Mercurio has published a number of excellent editorials exposing similar government tactics directed against it-

self, but El Mercurio's financial situation is precarious and it is unlikely to be able to resist government pressures indefinitely. Allende may be able to exercise almost complete control over mass media communications without ever appearing to violate the constitution which guarantees freedom of the press. This is what the second correspondent meant when he said that all communications media are seriously threatened.

Copies of report available

Copies of the complete report on Chile 1971 are available to OPC members free as long as the supplies last. They can be obtained from *Richard Hubbell*, World Wide Information Services, Inc., 660 First Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10016.

ERRATUM:

There was an inadvertent error in the spelling of *S. K. Butsikares'* name in the May 22 issue. We're sorry. Ed.

JOHN SEXTON & CO. is a leading supplier to the volume feeding market, the nation's fourth largest industry. Its high-quality food and non-food products, ranging from hearts of palm to detergents, are sold to restaurants, hotels, clubs, schools, and transportation and institutional food service operations. John Sexton & Co. is the only national processor supplying products exclusively to this market.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS

FROM A REMEMBERING FRIEND:

Where are the giants of yesteryear
Whose visual tones still ring in
my ear?

Ah! Thurber . . . Ah! Nash . . .
Crash !!!

MORE RECOGNITION

So many people have worked so long in the OPC move to Time Life that some who deserve recognition may go uncommended. But no observer of the hectic days of late May could have failed to notice the tremendous contributions made by *Hildegard Fillmore*. Again, thanks.

NEW YORK SCENE

Sat., August 7. - Day-long VIP outing to Governor's Island. Reservations are required. For details see newsstory in this issue of The Bulletin.

PEOPLE & PLACES

(Cont'd from page 4)

given to p.r. executives by Public Relations News was one to **Edward J. Gerrity, Jr.**, who was chosen "1970 Public Relations professional of the Year." Awards were made by **Denny Griswold**, publisher-editor of the publication.... OPC members had a prominent part in the Silver Anvil awards of the Public Relations Society May 20. **Stephen E. Korsen** was p.r. chairman for award-winning information program in connection with the Third International Congress of Food Science and Technology; **Leon S. Theil** developed and implemented the award-winning 18-month program. And **Gilbert A. Crandall** accepted an award for the Maryland Division of Tourism of which

he is director.

OPC members **Norman Cousins**, **Pauline Frederick**, **Robert Benjamin**, **Ed Wergeles** and **Will Yolen** were honor award winners at the fourth annual Communication Week at Ohio University May 3 to 7. The awards were presented by Dean **John R. Wilhelm**, a former president of OPC.... **Robert I. Queen's** article "Our Crowded Household" included in 1971 Page One Awards Yearbook of the Newspaper Guild of New York... **John Scott**, WOR news, received first annual distinguished service award for news and public affairs broadcasting from Kent State University, Kent, Ohio...

The Lotus Club of New York presented **Mary Hemingway** with its Award

of Merit after she spoke at its Literary Round Table on March 29. This was the first time in the club's 101-year history that a woman was invited to speak at its Round Table.

NEW POSTS: **Robert G. Pearson** named vice president, p.r., of the Council of Better Business Bureaus. **Eugene Miller**, New York Stock Exchange, vice president for public relations and investor services, elected senior vice president of the Exchange by the Exchange's Board of Governors.... **George B. Bookman**, director of public information-press relations of the New York Stock Exchange, named assistant vice president.

POLITICS: **Gilbert Jonas** named national coordinator of the newly-formed Committee to Elect Charles Evers Governor of Mississippi.

RETIRING: **Milton Fairman** is retiring as editor of the Public Relations Journal, published by the Public Relations Society of America.

MARRIED: **Kay Ross** and **Gary G. Reibsam**, managing Editor of Metals Week, on May 17.... **Ingeborg** and **Tomas D. W. Friedmann** on May 7.

RESIGNED: **C. B. Squire** has resigned as editor of Platt's Oilgram News Service (McGraw Hill) and plans to freelance from his home, P.O. Box 142, West Redding, Conn. 06896.

EXHIBIT: The "World of **Fleur Cowles**" being exhibited at the Richard Demarco Gallery in Edinburgh June 5 to July 3. OPCers are especially invited.

Democratic hospitality

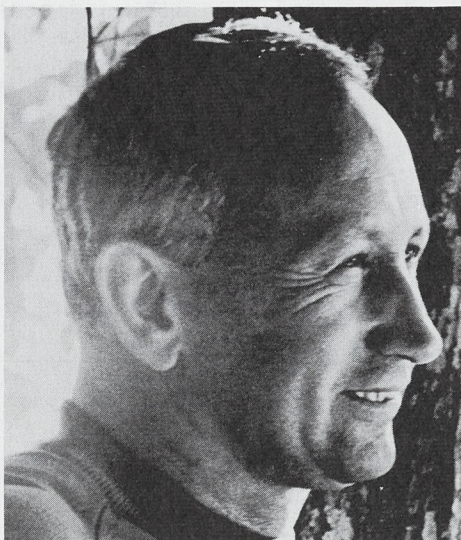
Although being without a home of our own over these past few weeks has been inconvenient, as it is noted elsewhere in these columns the hospitality given to OPC members by the National Democratic Club has been outstanding. The service facilities and the attitudes of NDC members to OPC "orphans" have all been excellent. The Club is indeed grateful to the National Democratic Club for so generously opening its doors and giving us all such warm welcome — Republicans included.

Classified

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Pauline Frederick
Photo by NBC



Norman Cousins
Photo by Saturday Review



Will A. Yolen
Photo by Hill & Knowlton



Ed Wergeles
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